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K-9 breaks in new kennels

BY PFC. DORIAN M. GARDNER
Chevron staff

The depot K-9 unit recently renovated its kennel with larger drainpipes and smoother concrete for doggie comfort.

The old kennels had rough concrete walls that irritated the dogs, according to Staff Sgt. Todd W. Shires, Provost Marshal's Office kennel master. The new kennels are bigger, smoother and better ventilated, which has improved comfort in the recent months since the renovations.

According to Shires, K-9 Marines house and train German shepherds and Belgian Malinois to locate or retrieve narcotics and explosives.

Shires, who leads the military working dog training program, has served here for five and a half years. He said in addition to the detection and retrieval work here, the depot dogs were also employed during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Borris, a Belgian Malinois, was part of I Marine Expeditionary Force when it deployed to Iraq earlier this year.

"The dogs made a lot of the difference out there. We used the dogs to sniff out bombs under bridges or in piles of garbage," said Cpl. David L. Vasquez, explosives dog handler. "They saved a lot of lives."

Before partnering with a handler at

SEE **Kennels**, pg. 2



Borris, one of the Provost Marshal's own trained K-9's waits for his opportunity to show his ability on the obstacle course. Pfc. Dorian M. Gardner/Chevron



Hotel's exit Platoon 2016, Company H men stand at parade rest during the company commander's inspection at Shepherd Memorial Drill Field Oct. 16. Recruits must pass this inspection before graduation. Sgt. Len Langston/Chevron

Top recruiting stations honored

Commandant acknowledges commanders at 23rd annual conference

STAFF SGT. MARC AYALIN
Marine Corps Recruiting Command

The Commandant presented awards to the Corps' top performing recruiting stations in a ceremony Oct. 13 during a three-day commanders conference at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C.

Gen. Michael W. Hagee presented fiscal 2004 Superior Achiever Awards – engraved plaques likely to go on display at station headquarters – to 22 of the Corps' 48 RS commanders.

The conference, whose attendees included commanding generals from Marine Corps Recruiting Command and the Eastern and Western recruiting regions, gathered approximately 120 Marine officers from recruiting units throughout the nation.

The award ceremony, now in its 23rd year, is held annually to recognize commanders who meet or exceed the Corps' fiscal-year recruiting goals.

SEE **Awards**, pg. 2



Major David B. Sosa, left, receives a Superior Achiever Award from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Michael W. Hagee during a Marine Corps Recruiting Command conference at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., Oct. 14. Staff Sgt. Marc Ayalin/MCRC

Superior Achievers

The Corps' Top Recruiting Stations

Buffalo	Columbia
New York	Phoenix
Portsmouth	San Antonio
Springfield	Albuquerque
Harrisburg	Houston
Cleveland	Chicago
Detroit	Indianapolis
Atlanta	Lansing
Nashville	Milwaukee
Orlando	Twin Cities
Fort Lauderdale	Sacramento



RED RIBBON OBSERVANCE OCT. 25-29

Tradition began almost 20 years ago as Marine tribute

3



AIR SHOW

Station puts on mighty display of power and air superiority.

6



VARSITY BASKETBALL PRE-SEASON TIPS OFF

12



SUPERIOR ACHIEVERS Commandant of the Marine Corps General Michael W. Hagee speaks to Marine Corps Recruiting Command Marines during a conference at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. recently. Leaders discussed past and future issues and determined ways to improve recruiting processes. Staff Sgt. Marc Ayvalin/MCRG

I feel extremely proud of my Marines ... it is the staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge in every (recruiting substation) across America that is really doing the job ... These guys are the real true winners of the Superior Achiever Award.'

– Maj. Shane Tomko, commanding officer, RS Portsmouth, N.H.

Awards, from pg. 1

“Our Marine recruiters are recruiting the future Marine Corps, and they are doing a tremendous job during very challenging times,” Hagee said. “We have a challenge this upcoming year, but I feel quite confident that the Marines we have out there are going to recruit the right young Americans to come in and earn the privilege of wearing the eagle, globe and anchor.”

With conflicts continuing in the Middle East, the Corps’ leaders are conscious that recruiting efforts may become more challenging. However, Gaskin remains confident that the conference will help recruiting commanders prepare for the future.

“This conference gives us the chance to find out in this business what confronts our recruiting efforts and what the solutions are,” Gaskin said. “We are doing well in recruiting, but we know there are going to be tough times ahead based on what’s happening in the world, so we are here to share successes and failures and discuss the strategies that will help us maintain the Corps’ strength.”

While recruiting commanders discussed recruiting issues and created ideas for the upcoming years, some of the award recipients were just proud to have achieved or exceeded their recruiting goals from the previous fiscal year.

“I feel extremely proud of my Marines

because it is never necessarily the work done by the recruiting station commander, but it is the staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge in every tactical fight and in every (recruiting substation) across America that is really doing the job of attaining the mission for the Marine Corps,” said Maj. Shane Tomko, commanding officer, RS Portsmouth, N.H. “These guys are the real true winners of the Superior Achiever Award.”

For nine consecutive years, the Corps has continued to meet its recruiting goals by enlisting approximately 38,000 new recruits a year to fill the Corps’ ranks. In fiscal 2004, Marine recruiters sent 36,794 young men and women to boot camp.

Kennels, from pg. 1

the depot, the dogs come from Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, where they receive narcotics or bomb-detection training. Dogs cost between \$1,000 and \$3,000 before training. Some dogs come from overseas breeders. To train a narcotics dog costs about \$50,000, and to train a dog to locate explosive devices costs about \$65,000.

“The dogs are definitely worth it,” said Shires. “We use them when we search cars and when local law enforcement has a bomb threat that is too big to cover without our assistance. There are two ways a search can go. You either find it or you don’t. With these dogs, we find it.”



Oct. 27

Duncan Hall, 6 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Oct. 28

Marine Corps Exchange, 10:30 a.m.

For more information about Red Ribbon Week or prevention resources contact the Substance Abuse Counseling Center at (619) 524-1912 or visit www.mccsmcrd.com



OPERATION BLESSING

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- Has touched the lives of those in need in 96 countries and all 50 U.S. states, providing goods and services valued at more than \$750 million.
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SAFETY

How to tell if you're an abuse victim

What is battering?

Battering is a pattern of behavior used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, often including the threat or use of violence. Battering happens when one person believes they are entitled to control another. Assault, battering and domestic violence are crimes.

Definitions: Abuse of family members can take many forms. Battering may include emotional abuse, economic abuse, sexual abuse, using children, threats, using male privilege, intimidation, isolation, and a variety of other behaviors used to maintain fear, intimidation and power. In all cultures, the perpetrators are most commonly the men of the family. Women are most commonly the victims of violence. Elder and child abuse are also prevalent. Acts of domestic violence generally fall into one or more of the following categories:

- **Physical Battering** - The abuser’s physical attacks or aggressive behavior can range from bruising to murder. It often begins with what is excused as trivial contacts which escalate into more frequent and serious attacks.
- **Sexual Abuse** - Physical attack by the abuser is often accompanied by, or culminates in, sexual violence wherein the woman is forced to have sexual intercourse with her

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

abuser or take part in unwanted sexual activity.

- **Psychological Battering** -The abuser’s psychological or mental violence can include constant verbal abuse, harassment, excessive possessiveness, isolating the woman from friends and family, deprivation of physical and economic resources, and destruction of personal property.

Battering escalates. It often begins with behaviors like threats, name calling, violence in her presence (such as punching a fist through a wall), and/or damage to objects or pets. It may escalate to restraining, pushing, slapping, and/or pinching. The battering may include punching, kicking, biting, sexual assault, tripping, throwing. Finally, it may become life-threatening with serious behaviors such as choking, breaking bones, or the use of weapons.

Getting help

- If you need immediate assistance, dial 911.
- Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233.
- Go online at www.ncadv.org.
- To find an organization near you, see our State Coalition List online at www.ncadv.org/resources/state.htm.

Former Marine’s cause lives on in Red Ribbon

Courtesy Substance Abuse Counseling Center

The Substance Abuse Counseling Center here is joining with the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counter-narcotics and the National Family Partnership to promote healthy, drug-free lifestyles during Red Ribbon 2004 Oct. 25-29.

Red Ribbon Week originated as a tribute to former Marine and Special Agent Enrique “Kiki” S. Camarena of the Drug Enforcement Administration. In 1985, he was kidnapped, tortured, and killed by drug traffickers in Guadalajara, Mexico. Kiki’s death enraged many Americans

in his hometown of Calexico, California and they began to wear red ribbons to commemorate his sacrifice. The anti-drug message spread quickly, and in 1988, the NFP took the Red Ribbon celebration nationwide.

This year’s theme is “Drug Free – I Have the Power!” Drugs pose an enormous threat to our national security. Our military and civilian employees continue to mobilize around the world against threats, including drugs, to keep our homeland secure. They must be at their best both physically and mentally in order to make wise decisions under pressure.

We have mobilized against the drug threat,



Enrique “Kiki” S. Camarena

and will continue the fight.

The Red Ribbon Week Observance is an anti-drug education and drug abuse awareness program sponsored by the NFP. The focus is to educate individuals, families, and communities on the destructive effects of drugs and the positive alternative life choices that are available to our youth.

Red Ribbon Week is a chance to be visible and vocal in our desire for a drug-free community. Research has revealed that children are less likely to use alcohol and other drugs when parents and other role models are clear and consistent in their opposition to substance use and abuse.

Reeling from Salazar’s death

BY LANCE CPL. JESS LEVENS

Chevron staff

The last time I saw Cpl. William Salazar, we were drinking beer and playing Tecmo Bowl on the old Nintendo in his Camp Pendleton barracks room. I was beating him unmercifully as his Raider defense was no match for Walter Payton’s running game. We talked about the last year or so and joked around. We talked about the Corps and where we were going. Bill was pretty sure he was going to Iraq. He was glad. That is why he joined.

It had been over a year since I saw him last at the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md., where we met. At first I thought he was just a loudmouth from L.A., which he was. But his mouth and attitude came mostly from motivation and his love of the Corps. He always said

he wished he were a grunt instead of a combat cameraman. He talked about how he was afraid he’d never see combat or fight for freedom.

Salazar is dead now from wounds he received in combat while fighting for freedom. He died with two soldiers and a civilian in Iraq’s Al Anbar province Oct. 15 when a car bomb exploded, according to a press release. I read this Monday morning, shocked and sobered. Still in faint disbelief, I realized this is the first time I have been so personally affected by the war.

It makes me angry. It makes me ponder what we’re fighting for. It makes me not care why we’re fighting. I just want to avenge Salazar. I don’t know. I just know we’re at war, and we will win. Lives must be sacrificed. It’s hard to bear, but it’s necessary.

Rather than harp on his death, I’d like you to know what kind of Marine Salazar

was. Stories about Salazar come from Marines all over the world. I got phone calls and e-mails Monday from friends in New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, all over California, Hawaii and Japan. They all wanted to make sure everyone knew what happened, or they wanted information about his untimely death. Salazar was a Marine’s Marine. He would do anything for anyone.

Even the night of drunken Tecmo Bowl began as a favor for me. I ran into him at a friend’s wedding on the base. After the reception, I was too intoxicated and tired to drive. Before I could even say anything, he insisted I stay in his room and drive back in the morning.

“I remember when I met Salazar back at DINFOS,” said Lance Cpl. Nicholous Radloff, a combat photographer at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. “When I got there, he took me aside and gave me advice on how to present myself as a

Marine. He showed me uniform tricks, and on weekends, he took me running to make sure I stayed in shape.

“When he found out Angie and I were engaged, he was so supportive. His support made our marriage even more special. It’s good to have friends like that.”

According to DINFOS, Salazar is the first service member from the school to die in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is the first Marine combat cameraman to die in combat since Cpl. William Perkins, who received the Medal of Honor for diving on a grenade in the Vietnam War.

I shed my first tears as a result of this war when Salazar died. It’s never hit so close to home. Whenever I stomp someone in video-game football or drink cheap beer because everyone is broke or get into a brawl, I’ll remember that loudmouth Marine. Thanks Bill.

Service members may be protected from insurance sales

BY JENNIFER WOLSBORN

Legal assistant office

Soon selling certain life insurance and mutual funds on military bases may become illegal. A bill aiming to increase protection to military personnel from the sale of certain financial plans on military bases is expected to pass in Congress. However, this bill is not yet law.

Army veteran Senator Max Burns, R-Ga., proposed the Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act to ban the sale of mutual fund contractual plans on military installations and to ensure full regulation of life insurance sold on military bases. Burns has stated, “We cannot allow those who defend our freedom to continue to be unfairly targeted for the sale of dubious financial products.”

Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises Subcommittee Chairman, Richard H. Baker, La., said, “Our nation’s military personnel deserve only the best our country can provide, and that includes investment and insurance products that help them attain financial security for themselves and their families.”

This bill comes as a response to allegations that service members have been sold unlicensed products or licensed products using improper or misleading sales tactics. The bill is aimed particularly at preventing misleading or high-pressure marketing practices directed at young recruits who are urged to buy financial products that are not best suited to their financial

needs. Representative Michael G. Oxley, Chairman of the House Committee on Financial Services remarked, “Military personnel have special needs when it comes to financial products. Their lives are at risk, and many are young with growing families.” This bill extends protection to young and financially inexperienced military personnel.

This bill will protect service members from being sold low-return life insurance on military installations. This legislation will ensure that all military members are advised of life insurance offered by the Federal government prior to any sales made by private insurance companies, and notes that the Federal government does not endorse any particular private financial services.

Most service members take advantage of Service-member’s Group Life Insurance, which offers \$10,000 incremental policies with a \$250,000 maximum. These policies offer low monthly payments ranging from \$0.65 for \$10,000 of coverage to \$16.25 for \$250,000 of coverage. Except that this coverage expires when the member leaves the service, there is often no need to buy additional policies from private insurers. One service member from South Dakota purchased a \$32,500 death benefit from a private insurance company at a high cost of \$120 per month, roughly the same coverage could have been obtained from SGLI for \$1.95. This bill will prevent similar low-return plans from being sold on military installations.

To protect your earnings, be cautious of private insur-

ance both on and off base, and until this bill passes, be particularly careful of private insurance plans sold on military bases. For more complete information on SGLI coverage you can visit www.insurance.va.gov.

This bill would also ban contractual plans – an obscure mutual fund – from being peddled on military bases. Contractual plans result in sales charges, which consume 50 percent of an investor’s first-year contributions; these plans have been virtually obsolete in the civilian market since the 1970’s. To put things in perspective, the average commission on a mutual fund is 6 percent, 44 percent lower than the commission on these contractual plans. This bill will take a preventative stance. While it will ban sales of contractual plans starting 30 days from the time of enactment, it will not alter or invalidate existing contractual plans.

Burns has furthered stated, “We have far too many unscrupulous insurance companies using federal military property to dodge state insurance commissioners and sell overpriced policies with virtually no oversight.” In response, the bill clarifies that insurance sales representatives operating in the United States are subject to state insurance commission regulations and laws, even if the product was sold on Federal land.

Service members who believe they have purchased these questionable financial products can contact the state insurance commissioner in the state the products were purchased. In California, the web site is: www.insurance.ca.gov.



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Operation Homecoming

Operation Homecoming will run through Veteran’s Day, allowing returning service members and up to four direct dependents, a one-time, free entry to one of the Sea World, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks. The offer provides for one visit to one park only.

Proof of deployment or overseas service is required along with a valid Department of Defense identification and completed application form. Application forms will be available on-line and at park front gates.

Marathon MAC flight

Marine Corps Community Services at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., is in the process of securing a Military Airlift Command flight to the Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 31, in Quantico, Va. We are collecting names of any active duty in the Southwest region who would be interested in taking advantage of this flight. Space is limited to 40 people, but a waiting list will be created once these slots have been filled. For more information, contact Michele Bean at DSN 267-7700, (858) 577-7700 or via e-mail at michele.bean@usmc-mccs.org.

Leaders requested to promote climate survey

The Marine Corps Climate Survey is a Marine Corps-wide survey that measures perceptions of organization and command climate, as well as experiences of discrimination and sexual harassment. The survey is sponsored by the Manpower Equal Opportunity Branch, Manpower Plans and Policy Division, Manpower and Reserve Affairs Department, Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps.

The success of efforts in evaluating these areas depends on the individual Marine, regardless of rank, ethnicity or gender.

Approximately 11,000 active duty Marines and 9,000 Marine reservists have been randomly selected to participate in the survey. For the data to be valid, it is important that those Marines complete and return it.

Responses to the survey will be analyzed for differences among ethnic groups, between male and female Marines and between officers and enlisted personnel.

Leaders at all levels are requested to support this effort by encouraging those Marines randomly selected to participate



Pvt. Jimmy M. Caron and Pfc. Joshua D. Matthews, Platoon 2013, Company H, race the clock to pump out crunches in a two-minute time limit while Pvt. Miguel A. Ramos, Platoon 2014, braces Caron’s legs and counts. Sgt. Len Langston/Chevron

Volunteers of America

How to Show Kids You Care
Ideas for families with service members overseas

When members of the U.S. Armed Forces are serving overseas, their absence can be especially difficult for their young children. Parents and grandparents can do a great deal to maintain strong family ties, assure these youngsters they are loved, and help them over the rough spots.

Most important:

- Before the service member leaves for duty, set aside time to talk with children and encourage them to express their feelings and concerns. If they’re confused or angry, kids may pretend they don’t care. Cut through this “tough talk” to reach your child’s heart.
- During the service member’s absence, encourage kids to talk about their thoughts and feelings. They may be lonely for the absent parent and perhaps feel abandoned. They may fear for the parent’s safety overseas, and they may be concerned about their own loss if the worst happens. Assure children that they are deeply loved.
- If you feel your child needs professional counseling, seek help immediately from the military, the school, or other resources in your community. Warning signs include changes in personality, anxiety or fear that is extreme, feelings of worthlessness, change in eating or sleeping habits, social isolation, unexplained outbursts or changes in mood, and inability to concentrate.

Ideas for keeping kids’ spirits up:

- Have your child prepare a scrapbook of his or her activities, big and small, and mail it to the absent parent or put it in a special place for the parent’s return.
- Photograph children in school plays, ball games, and other events and mail (or e-mail) the pictures to the absent parent or put them in a special place for the parent’s return. If you can’t be there, give the child a disposable camera so he or she can capture the action.
- Sneak a funny picture or special treat into your kid’s lunchbox or gym bag, to be discovered during the school day. If possible, ask the absent parent to send a note or photo for this purpose.



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The Hatch Act

Explaining conduct in political activity

In this time of heightened political activity, it is a good time to review permitted and prohibited political activity of federal employees. The following is general guidance only and the Office of Special Counsel should be contacted for information and advice of specific questions and situations.

The Hatch Act, passed by Congress in 1939, imposed significant restrictions on federal employees, government employees, and certain state and local government employees on their ability to participate in political activities. In 1993, Congress amended the Hatch Act to relax some of the restrictions. Most federal employees are now allowed to take an active part in political management or in political campaigns.

Do’s

Federal employees may:

- be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections
- register and vote as they choose
- assist in voter registration drives
- distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- express opinions about candidates and issues
- contribute money to political organizations
- attend political fund-raising functions
- attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- join and be an active member of a political party or club
- sign and circulate nominating petitions
- campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, and municipal ordinances
- campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
- hold office in political clubs or parties

Don’ts

Federal employees may not:

- use official authority or influence to interfere with an election
- solicit or discourage political activity of anyone with business before their agency
- solicit, accept, or receive political contributions (may be done in limited situations by federal labor or other employee organizations)
- be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- engage in political activity while on duty or in a government office
- wear political partisan buttons on duty or engage in political activity while wearing an official uniform
- engage in political activity while using a government vehicle

Source: Office of Special Counsel, which is responsible for administration of law and regulation regarding such activity. Please visit their Web site at www.osc.gov.

BOO!

Halloween
Scaregrounds
house horrors

BY PFC. DORIAN M. GARDNER
Chevron staff

The Del Mar Fairgrounds – temporarily dubbed Scaregrounds – is hosting its third annual Scream Zone today through Halloween.

The festival for all ages boasts one of Southern California’s scariest haunted houses along with a 3-D ghost maze and a haunted hayride that exhibits more than a mile of scary scenes.

“The haunted house was a lot scarier than I thought it would be. The makeup made the monsters look so real,” said Pfc. Fabiola Escobedo, depot adjutant clerk. “I never thought I would be that scared.”

Organizers also have resurrected movie monsters Freddy Krueger and Jason along with characters from Psycho and 13 Ghosts.

“It was the first time I had crazy people coming after me,” said Lance Cpl. Kyle J. Ochoa, Finance Office Division travel clerk. “That haunted house was definitely the scariest thing I had ever been through related to Halloween.”

The festival also features a bungee jump, a Ferris wheel and kiddy rides.

Gates open at 7 p.m. and close at 12 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Events will close at 11 p.m. Oct. 24-28. For more information, go to www.thescreamzone.com.



Crazy clowns chase patrons at The House of Horrors.



Patrons are greeted by psychotic prom dates and many others throughout the 3-D Ghost Maze. Photos courtesy the Del Mar Fairgrounds



A House of Horror hostess serves up the nights main course. The house is not recommended for children under 10.

‘The SOUND



Fireworks burst into a brilliant array of colors during the twilight show of the 2004 Miramar Air Show at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Skye Jones/MCAS Miramar*

of FREEDOM’

49th air show thunders over Miramar; civilian pilot dies

BY LANCE CPL. SKYE JONES
Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

Approximately 500,000 visitors flocked from all over the globe to witness the 2004 Miramar Air Show Oct. 15-17.

The air show, called “Thunder over Miramar: The Sound of Freedom,” kept guests and base personnel entertained for days with civilian and military static displays, vendor booths and aerial and ground performances.

Although the U.S. Navy Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron headlined the event, a great number of military and civilian performers kept the crowds pumped up.

The world’s largest transformer, the Robosaurus, a 40-foot, fire-breathing transformer, was a huge crowd pleaser rolling up and down the flight line eating cars.

“I loved the giant dinosaur. It was my favorite thing at the air show,” said 10-year-old Michael Hudspeth.

Kids and adults also enjoyed the Marine Air Ground Task Force demonstration, which thrilled spectators with displays of close air support, armor, artillery and infantry forces.

During the twilight show, the MAGTF demonstration fired the crowd up with pyrotechnics, explosions and the “Great Wall of Fire,” which made the Guinness Book of World Records for the longest wall of fire at the 2000 Miramar Air Show.

Civilian performers also entertained the crowds during the weekend. Despite the tragic crash and death of civilian pilot Sean deRosier during the first day, the event prevailed.

Brig. Gen. Carl B. Jensen, commanding general, MCAS Miramar, dedicated Friday’s performances to deRosier after his death.

“Sean, in any event, would have wanted to continue this air show, and that is what we’re going to do,” Jensen said.

The air show experienced another setback Sunday with a sudden morning downpour. But despite the weather conditions, the show went on.

Merchants still set up their tents to sell food and merchandise to the public throughout the flight line. Vendors and units also set up booths to promote their products to the throng of visitors who still decided to come out.

According to Ed Downum, Miramar Air Show coordinator, Marine Corps Community Services, the proceeds from the food, beverage and novelty sales, booth fees and premium seating go to MCCA, who will use the money to fund programs and facilities for service members and their families.

“The air show is a great event and the community loves it,” Downum said. “Now that this show is over, we are going to start planning for next year’s air show.”

Overall, visitors and base personnel who attended the air show had an enjoyable time.

“I’m glad that we opened up our base so civilians can experience this event, and I am glad that I had the opportunity to come out to the air show,” said Pfc. David Maxim, field wireman, Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38, Marine Air Control Group 38, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. “I am definitely coming back next year.”



The U.S. Navy Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron soars through a cloudy sky. They were the headliners of the air show. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Skye Jones/MCAS Miramar*



Tom M. Smith, owner of a displayed MiG-15 jet, sits next to his aircraft during the air show at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. *Photo by Sgt. Cecilia Sequeira/MCAS Miramar*



The Robosaurus blows fire through his nose during the air show. The 40-foot-tall crowd pleaser is the world’s largest transformer, capable of picking up cars and aircraft. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Skye Jones/MCAS Miramar*



Jeremy J. Bonelle, an air show spectator and photographer, served in the military during the Vietnam War. Many of the aircraft provided close-air-support for him during the war. Bonelle photographed the air show. *Photo by Sgt. Cecilia Sequeira/MCAS Miramar*

Down never meant out

Marine’s bruised upbringing didn’t stop him from succeeding, and he lets his recruits know it

BY SGT. LEN LANGSTON
Chevron staff

Staff Sgt. Oscar X. Gomez has a blotchy burn mark on his left hand – one of the few things his abusive come-and-go mother gave him in Ecuador. And though life knocked him down early, it never stopped him from getting back up.

His father abandoned him at an early age, and because his mother disregarded her children, Gomez grew up with his aunt. His sister and two brothers grew up with other family members, and that separation created more anguish, according to Gomez.

“The worst time – and I’ll never forget it – was when my little brother was taken by someone else to be raised,” Gomez said. “I remember one day when my little brother and me were taken and dropped off at the circus by my mom. She never came back to pick us up. I was scared for my brother.”

If it weren’t for his will, being poor and abused would have been unbearable.

“Many times I didn’t want to be around,” said Gomez. “We had it hard, and I was always worried about my (younger) brother.”

Concerned for their well-being, his grandmother in Queens, N.Y., lobbied to have her grandchildren live with the family in America, according to Gomez.

“We wanted to come to the United States really bad because we wanted a new life,” said Gomez.

Eventually, Gomez, his sister and brother flew to the United States. One brother stayed in Ecuador and joined the navy.

When he arrived at his grandmother’s doorstep, Gomez had brought with him a ton of baggage; he had disciplinary problems from a troubled upbringing.

“I had no guidance,” said Gomez. “I was suspended left and right from school for fighting.”

Despite being a rebellious juvenile, he evaded expulsion by being a bright pupil.

“In junior high (being smart) kept me from being expelled because I was getting good grades,” said Gomez. “The principal told my aunt if it weren’t for my grades, I would’ve been expelled.”

Tired of the screw-ups, his uncle Rosendo felt it was time to have a sit-down talk and salvage Gomez’s future.

“My uncle talked to me and said I needed to step up and be somebody. That opened my eyes,” Gomez said. “No (kidding), I turned around.”

Gomez changed his attitude and started attending classes daily while working part time at McDonald’s. He eventually graduated with honors from Thomas Edison High School in Queens.

However, with his family harping on him, Gomez decided to leave home at 17.

“I got tired of being put down, and I took one black bag and I left,” said Gomez.

That desperate act landed him in the streets with no shelter.

“The McDonald’s had a playground, and I slept there for a week until one of the managers offered me a place to stay at his apartment,” said Gomez.

He took the offer but got out of there and joined the Marine Corps, and as a

young Marine, he was beginning to take charge of his life and learn responsibility. His attitude, however, needed an overhaul, which it received when Gomez arrived at his first duty station.

“A master gunnery sergeant in Okinawa gave me my first wake-up call,” said Gomez. “He chewed me out and said something to the effect that I was capable of so much more if it wasn’t for my attitude.”

Retired Master Gunnery Sgt. Patton Jones recalls that discussion.

“He had a lot to offer the Marine Corps,” said Jones. “He just needed a little

direction. He started taking charge and provided guidance to other Marines. He was a self-motivator, and he spread that wealth of knowledge.”

Ultimately Gomez decided to become a drill instructor – to make a difference and make Marines.

“I try to give (recruits) guidance that I didn’t have,” Gomez said. “I’ve had plenty of recruits that lack guidance. I talk to them and I give them the same advice my uncle once gave me. I use a lot of my personal life toward the recruits, and it works.”

His close friend from Drill Instructor School agrees and praises his accomplishments.

“He has always excelled in everything he’s done,” said senior drill instructor Staff Sgt. Alfredo Topete, Special Training Company.

Gomez has repeated first-place honors in the regimental drill competition, and his accomplishments from this training cycle have earned him Co. H’s Motivation Leadership Award, according to series gunnery sergeant Staff Sgt. Ronal Morales.

He shows the recruits they can succeed even if they come from a hard background.



Growing up in Ecuador, mostly without his mother and father, Staff Sgt. Oscar X. Gomez overcame discipline problems after coming to America. Sgt. Len Langston/Chevron

Oregon dedicates memorial to American heroes

BY SGT. MICHAEL FREEMAN
12th Marine Corps Recruiting District



State officials recognized heroes hailing from Oregon recently with the unveiling of the Oregon Veterans Medal of Honor Memorial in front of the state’s capitol building in Salem.

Thirteen granite blocks surround the building’s twin flagpoles. Atop each block is a plaque with an etched likeness of each of the state’s native sons who has earned the distinction. Below the face and name of each, visitors can read about the deeds of these brave few, their full citations etched in brass for all to see.

Among honored guests at the unveiling was Arthur J. Jackson, a former Marine and retired Army captain, who earned his place among the honored exactly 60 years before. Jackson

earned the Medal of Honor Sept. 18, 1944, as a private first class serving as a Browning automatic rifleman with 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. He is credited with launching a one-man assault on enemy troops on the Island of Peleliu, demolishing 12 pillboxes and killing 50 Japanese soldiers in the process. He is Oregon’s only living Medal of Honor recipient.

“Just a word about Peleliu,” said Jackson. “It’s the nearest to hell I believe I could ever be.” Jackson said that both the Medal of Honor itself and the memorial serve to honor not only the recipients of the medal, but all those who sacrifice for the greater good in the line of duty.

Col. Mark Callihan, commanding officer of Recruit Training Regiment, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, also spoke at the event. “These heroes we honor here today are emblematic of individuals representing all of our military services – willing to put everything at risk to save a comrade, drive back the enemy,

They earned their Medals of Honor ... a deed that gives momentary clarity to the chaos of battle.”

— Col. Mark Callihan, Recruit Training Regiment commanding officer

or stubbornly hold a position. They earned their Medals of Honor because it embosses the abstract ideal of courage with a specific face, a name and a character, a deed that gives momentary clarity to the chaos of battle.”

After the official presentation of the memorial to the Oregon Secretary of State, Jackson was escorted by Recruiting Substation Salem staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge Gunnery Sgt. Michael L. Dukes. At the base of the flagpole, Jackson waited for the signal to remove the veil. The simple ceremony, which was christened with a roaring flyover by F-15s from the Portland Air National Guard Base’s 142nd Fighter Wing, ended with a countdown and a simple tug on a string, which unveiled the monument and prompted resounding applause and camera flashes.

Jackson now lives in Boise, Idaho, but will make another appearance in the Great Northwest as Recruiting Station Portland’s guest of honor at the command’s Marine Corps birthday ball celebration Nov. 6 in Stevenson, Wash.

Former soldier changed services, carries on family tradition

BY PFC. DORIAN M. GARDNER
Chevron staff

The oldest recruit in Platoon 2014 is no stranger to the military.

Pfc. Roy L. Gamboa, a 28-year-old native of Guam, served eight years in the Army reserves and one year in the National Guard before he stepped on the yellow footprints at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

Gamboa learned the importance of leadership at an early age. He grew up in a close-knit family and knew the importance of setting examples.

“I was the oldest of four kids growing up, so I always had somebody watching to see what I did or was about to do,” said Gamboa. “I never wanted to give my brother and sisters anything negative to look up to.”

Sports also played an important role in Gamboa’s leadership and physical fitness development.

“When I was a kid, we used to play stickball in the streets,” said Gamboa, who started playing sports at age five. The first time he went to the continental United States was with the little league baseball team. Gamboa said he learned to lead others when he was playing team sports.

Even though he was always involved in sports, his mother always made sure that his work was finished before he went off to do other things, according to Gamboa.

“When I got to high school, I continued to play baseball, and I picked up on the sport of football,” said Gamboa.

While in high school, Gamboa added JROTC to his activities.

“All four years of high school, I participated in the JROTC program. It was definitely a major influence on my decision (to join) the military,” said Gamboa.

Gamboa had a happy, eventful life on Guam, but he longed for something else.

“Even though I had a lot of what I wanted on the island, I knew there was more waiting for me,” he said.

Because of his four years in JROTC, Gamboa applied for an ROTC scholarship, which yielded no reply. Therefore, after high school, Gamboa found himself in an Army recruiter’s office. He wanted to serve in the military, but he wanted to remain on Guam, so he chose to be an Army reservist. But shortly after he en-

listed, Gamboa found out he had earned that ROTC scholarship.

“I went to my recruiter on three separate occasions to see if I could postpone my shipping date so that I may be able to adjust the scholarship contract, but three times I was denied,” said Gamboa. “I left for basic training August 1993 and the fall semester started without me. My scholarship was no longer in effect.”

Gamboa spent eight years in the Army Reserve as an engineer. He said he grew tired of the routine in the reserves, so after his tour was complete, Gamboa switched to the National Guard to be become a medic.

“I found myself wanting something more than what the reserves was giving me,” said Gamboa.

He waited for an available medic position, but eight days after he signed the contract for the National Guard, a massive hurricane hit the island and his unit was activated. They spent two months restoring the island, providing security and giving medical support.

The National Guard could never guarantee him a school date, so he spent his only year in the Guard learning how to be a medic through on-the-job training before his term was up, said Gamboa.

After his tour with the National Guard, Gamboa returned to civilian life. But he still wanted to serve in the military. He started thinking about becoming a Marine.

“I had only known two people in my family who were Marines and they alone were the two biggest influences of my decision to enlist,” said Gamboa.

His uncle had served in the Korean conflict, and his cousin served during Desert Storm. Both of them had served in infantry units.

“The fact is that both of them were Marines and they were the two most upstanding men I have ever known,” said Gamboa. “My cousin served eight years in the Marine Corps and then became a (civilian) police officer. He is the one who taught me about Corps values.”

“One of the biggest features I value in others and expect of myself is integrity,” said Gamboa, who is Platoon 2014’s guide. “I wouldn’t ask any of the recruits to do anything that I wouldn’t do.”

“The guide is usually hired to have a heavy hand when the drill instructors are not there; they yell and keep the recruits in line,” said Pvt. N. J. Lohnes, a fellow Platoon 2014 recruit. “Gamboa didn’t do that. He never had a problem with recruits disrespecting him or not following

orders passed down through him because he delivered those messages respectfully. The house responds to him real well because he respects us.”

Gamboa’s fellow recruits weren’t the only ones who saw his leadership qualities.

“Out of all the recruits we had, there were three or four who fit the description (of a guide), but they couldn’t measure up to Gamboa. He had more experience and more maturity, said Staff Sgt. Robert L. Bell, Company H drill instructor, Platoon 2014.

Gamboa can already see a difference in his Marine Corps experience.

“There is a bond here that I never saw in the Army,” said Gamboa. “I saw relationships build when we had to help each other. To me, that is brotherhood.

“I wouldn’t have done this if I thought it was going to be easy. I am proud to be a product of Hotel Co. I was proud every time I held the guidon,” said Gamboa. “You can’t be proud of something that is just given to you.”

As he walks across Shepherd Memorial Drill Field today as a Marine, Gamboa is ready to carry on the Marine tradition in his family.



Pfc. Roy L. Gamboa practices drill with Platoon 2014’s guidon. Company H recruits practiced several times for their graduation ceremony today. Pfc. Dorian M. Gardner/Chevron

DELTA COMPANY



COMPANY HONORMAN
Lance Cpl. Trevor L. Buchanan
Phoenix
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. Richard P. Felton



SERIES HONORMAN
Pfc. Stefan D. Barcik
Houston
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. Trevor A. Highsmith



PLATOON HONORMAN
Pfc. Stefan D. Barcik
Houston
Recruited by
Sgt. Kevin W. Breau



PLATOON HONORMAN
Pfc. John H. Masterson
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. Juan M. Lara



PLATOON HONORMAN
Pfc. Nathan K. Hale
Seattle
Recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. Steven Tomaselli



PLATOON HONORMAN
Pfc. Roy P. Gamboa
Orange County, Calif.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. Johnathan Flick



PLATOON HONORMAN
Pfc. Joshua L. Schatzinger
San Diego
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. C. S. Pagdilao

SECOND RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION
Commanding Officer
Lt. Col. V. A. Ary
Chaplain
Lt. Cmdr. M. G. Mueller
Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. D. R. Anderson
Battalion Drill Master
Staff Sgt. D. A. Headrick

COMPANY H
Commanding Officer
Capt. B. H. Ramsey
Company First Sergeant
1st Sgt. T. W. Rollison
Company Corpsman
Petty Officer 3rd Class A. K. Bell

SERIES 2009
Series Commander
Capt. S. W. Glenn
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Staff Sgt. R. Morales

SERIES 2013
Series Commander
Capt. C. A. Dodd
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Gunnery Sgt. D. F. Ream

PLATOON 2009
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. H. Figueroa
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. S. Barajas
Sgt. A. C. Colling

*Pfc. J. C. Alcaraz
Pvt. J. P. Allison
*Pfc. A. F. Amayaramos
Pvt. P. T. Anderson
Pfc. A. A. Anguiano
Pfc. A. Araiza
Pfc. A. Araiza II
Pvt. T. C. Baggett
Pfc. J. D. Barragan
Pvt. S. J. Bellows

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT & WESTERN RECRUITING REGION
Commanding General
BRIG. GEN. J. M. PAXTON JR.
Sergeant Major
SGT. MAJ. F. E. PULLEY

RECRUIT TRAINING REGIMENT
Commanding Officer
COL. W. M. CALLIHAN
Sergeant Major
SGT. MAJ. M. L. SHEPARD
Regimental Drill Master
GUNNERY SGT. P. DOMINGUEZ JR.
Parade Adjutant
CAPT. W. P. BROWN
Narrator
GUNNERY SGT. C. A. WALKER

MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO
Band Officer
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER E. M. HAYES
Bandmaster
MASTER SGT. D. W. PRICE

COLOR GUARD
SGT. J. L. MARQUEZ
SGT. J. D. BROWN
PFC. M. A. SMITH
PVT. R. H. TRUEBLOOD

Pvt. J. D. Bishop
Pvt. M. A. Brower
Lance Cpl. T. L. Buchanan
Pfc. T. R. Bulger
Pfc. M. A. Burosh
Pvt. A. D. Cano
Pvt. M. F. Careaga
Pfc. C. K. Castor
Pfc. G. L. Chambers
Pvt. D. E. Champagne
Pvt. B. M. Chapman
Pvt. J. D. Clemons
Pfc. C. J. Cockerham
Pvt. K. R. Convery
Pfc. K. P. Crim
Pvt. N. R. Curtis
*Pfc. S. G. Drummond
Pfc. J. L. Duggan
Pvt. J. D. Eads
*Pfc. J. B. English
Pvt. J. Escobargarcia
Pfc. D. A. Evans
Pvt. J. S. Flores
Pvt. M. R. Foley
Pfc. A. G. Garcia
Pvt. R. J. Garciaruiz
Pvt. T. Garibay
Pfc. M. S. Gerardo
Pvt. B. A. Gillies
Pvt. C. E. Gilorozco
Pvt. Gomez Jr.
Pvt. Guzman Jr.
Pfc. C. J. Hammon
Pvt. J. R. Harper

Pfc. J. W. Helton
Pvt. B. D. Hilbert
Pvt. J. M. Hood
Pvt. D. R. Johnson
Pfc. T. S. Johnson
Pvt. A. D. Juraska
Pvt. L. S. Kelley Jr.
Pvt. J. H. Kelley
Pvt. A. K. Kendall
Pfc. K. S. King
Pvt. M. M. Labady
*Pfc. R. G. Lopez
Pvt. S. Lopezhinojos
Pvt. A. C. Marcum Jr.
Pvt. A. T. Martin
Pvt. J. Martinez
Pvt. J. Martinezcazare
Pfc. R. W. Mathison
Pvt. J. A. Medina
Pvt. M. R. Miramontes
Pvt. R. A. Montes
Pvt. G. Munoz
Pvt. K. P. Murphy
Pvt. C. T. Muscle
Pfc. A. R. Navarrete
Pvt. J. D. Nevarezbear
Pvt. N. H. Nghe
Pfc. L. K. Nguyen
Pfc. G. A. Oire
Pvt. A. Palenyy
Pfc. M. Perry Jr.
Pfc. A. W. Young

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. N. Ingle
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. J. B. Noel
Staff Sgt. H. M. Garcia
Sgt. S. W. Massey

Pfc. E. D. Andrade
Pfc. S. D. Barcik
Pfc. D. S. Bein
Pfc. D. A. Bjorklund
Pvt. D. R. Blakeney
Pvt. D. A. Bradberry
Pvt. Q. Q. Brown
Pvt. T. J. Buford
Pvt. J. A. Bulkema
Pvt. J. M. Bultinck
Pvt. M. A. Carroll
*Pfc. M. J. Chaffin
Pvt. J. T. Chapman
Pvt. R. A. Chavez
Pvt. K. J. Coad
Pfc. J. P. Cobb
Pfc. V. J. Cole
Pvt. S. A. Collins
Pvt. J. L. Crespo
Pvt. C. E. Curatolo
Pfc. J. H. Czuj
Pvt. D. F. Devries
Pvt. J. L. Diaz
Pfc. D. A. Engelken
Pfc. J. C. Evans
Pvt. P. R. Ferreira
Pvt. J. L. Fox

Pvt. J. R. Fruk
Pfc. T. T. Fulton
*Pfc. J. C. Glameyer
Pfc. M. J. Golemi
Pvt. D. R. Greenman
Pvt. J. A. Gutierrez
Pvt. K. D. Hale
Pvt. J. E. Heighland
Pfc. I. Hidalgo
Pvt. D. C. Hinson
Pvt. N. A. Hluchan
Pvt. J. R. Horstman
*Pfc. R. E. Hough
Pvt. T. O. Hutts
Pvt. J. Ibanez
Pfc. K. A. Johnson
Pvt. K. M. Johnston
Pvt. G. L. Jolly
Pvt. A. L. Jones
Pvt. D. L. Keen
Pvt. G. J. King
Pfc. N. A. Kloss
Pfc. B. M. Knapp
Pfc. J. L. Knight
Pvt. R. A. Krawisz
Pfc. C. T. Lane
Pvt. S. B. Luna
Pvt. Z. D. Mackenzie
Pvt. P. Mariscal
Pvt. J. S. Mathews
Pvt. J. D. McCarthy
Pvt. J. J. McCormick
Pvt. J. M. McCurdy
Pfc. B. A. McDaniel

HIGH SHOOTER (239)
Pfc. Kyle L. Brownfield
Indianapolis
Marksmanship Instructor
Sgt. Eugene V. Silva

Pvt. B. A. McNutt
Pfc. R. A. Michalk
Pvt. B. C. Moore
Pfc. J. S. Morrison
Pfc. M. Myers
*Pfc. J. E. Olney
Pvt. M. L. Ornelas
Pvt. C. D. Osoria
Pvt. J. A. Pena
Pvt. J. R. Runnells
Pvt. D. R. Sanagustin
Pfc. J. D. Sholes
Pvt. H. L. Solis
Pvt. Z. Wu

PLATOON 2011
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. E. B. Barton
Drill Instructors
Sgt. B. W. Wells
Sgt. N. J. Purtell

Pvt. E. Aguirre
Pvt. C. E. Almy
Pvt. L. M. Alvarez
Pvt. N. W. Arnold
*Pfc. L. F. Atkins
Pvt. N. Bahena



HIGH SHOOTER (239)
Pfc. Kyle L. Brownfield
Indianapolis
Marksmanship Instructor
Sgt. Eugene V. Silva



HIGH PFT (300)
Pfc. Shane G. Drummond
Los Angeles
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. Nathan K. Johnston

Pfc. B. R. Bailey
Pvt. J. A. Bazzano
*Pfc. J. K. Bergmeier
Pvt. J. A. Bissenas
Pvt. D. W. Bledsoe
Pvt. A. L. Bohanan
Pvt. R. C. Bowell
Pvt. N. J. Briede
Pvt. Z. C. Brown
Pfc. S. T. Calchera
Pvt. O. J. Cantrell
Pfc. L. A. Cardenas
Pvt. R. Celestino
Pfc. C. R. Clark
Pvt. O. H. Cortez
Pvt. T. J. Craven
Pfc. J. E. Culbertson
Pfc. J. L. Curtis
Pvt. A. J. Cushman
Pvt. F. A. Damon
Pvt. M. A. Deanda
Pfc. M. D. Donaho
Pfc. J. R. Flores
Pvt. D. L. Floyd
Pvt. A. T. Franklin
Pfc. A. Garcia
Pfc. M. S. Grimes
Pvt. D. B. Harrenstein
Pvt. R. L. Haynie
Pvt. W. C. Heimerdinger
Pvt. F. Hernandez
Pvt. J. D. Hinds
Pvt. S. M. Hinkebein
Pvt. B. G. Holland
Pfc. J. A. Hughes
*Pfc. D. M. Jackson
Pvt. J. H. Johnson
Pvt. C. W. Karr
Pvt. E. R. Kennon
Pvt. A. C. Latimer
Pfc. R. J. Lemmons
Pfc. M. D. Lesell
Pvt. A. B. Lheureux
Pfc. O. M. Lopez
Pvt. A. R. Lovato
Pvt. J. L. Luttrell
Pvt. A. P. Lynn
Pvt. I. W. Malufau
Pvt. C. C. Martin
Pvt. J. R. Mass
Pfc. J. H. Masterson
Pfc. B. S. Maxwell
*Pfc. C. J. McCabe
Pfc. D. E. McCurdy
Pfc. D. L. McIntier
Pvt. N. A. Molina
Pvt. N. L. Nguyen
Pvt. J. A. Nurss
Pvt. S. D. Oliva
Pvt. M. W. Omoth
Pfc. J. S. Ortega
Pvt. S. Padilla
*Pfc. D. S. Palmer
Pvt. C. E. Parks
Pfc. D. L. Phillips
Pfc. T. J. Pino
Pvt. R. M. Price
Pvt. D. M. Robinson
Pfc. C. D. Shanks
Pfc. B. Wong

PLATOON 2013
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. R. E. Jimenez

Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. Y. R. Gonzalez
Staff Sgt. F. J. Munoz
Staff Sgt. C. S. Taylor

Pfc. C. M. Anchondo
Pvt. M. B. Arnold
Pvt. C. A. Asay
Pvt. E. C. Barajas
Pfc. N. A. Barnes
Pvt. A. L. Behl
Pvt. S. M. Bosch
Pvt. D. L. Canham
Pvt. J. M. Caron
Pvt. Z. J. Carter
Pvt. B. R. Casper
Pfc. T. W. Ceniserov
Pvt. A. M. Cleveland
Pvt. T. J. Crochet
*Pfc. B. M. Czech
Pvt. G. P. Decker
Pfc. M. J. Dessert
*Pfc. J. M. Dreeswasmer
Pvt. G. S. Dryer
Pfc. J. J. Elledge
Pvt. K. J. Felton
Pvt. P. L. Fildes
Pfc. J. D. Fraley
Pvt. E. R. Freiburghouse
Pvt. A. D. Gastelum
Pfc. J. M. Gomez
Pvt. A. S. Gomez
Pfc. J. W. Graham
Pvt. J. R. Greenlee
Pfc. N. K. Hale
Pvt. J. H. Helfrich
Pfc. T. C. Hoff
Pvt. C. A. Hughes
Pfc. A. C. Janot
Pvt. C. E. Johnson
Pvt. R. J. Johnson
Pvt. I. Lopez
Pvt. G. Malek-Madani
*Pfc. J. D. Matthews
Pfc. J. A. Mazur
Pfc. A. T. Medellin
Pfc. J. A. Meek
Pvt. P. E. Moore
Pfc. E. W. Neal
Pvt. J. D. Page



Retired Lt. Col. Lee H. Gonzales

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Gonzales was commissioned a second lieutenant September 1958 following his graduation from St. Joseph University, Philadelphia, and subsequently assigned as a series officer, Company C here from 1960 to 1962.

He assumed command of Company K, Third Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment in 1965 and served in the Republic of Vietnam. During this period, his unit participated in the largest amphibious landing since

Pfc. Z. P. Pemberton
Pvt. N. B. Peterson
Pfc. C. J. Posa
Pvt. T. L. Powell
Pfc. M. A. Praderio
Pvt. D. C. Rader
*Pfc. D. R. Ramirez
Pvt. C. W. Ramsey
Pfc. R. A. Reed
Pvt. B. J. Richardson
Pvt. R. D. Rinehart
Pfc. A. Rivera
Pvt. R. O. Rodriguez
Pvt. J. S. Rodriguez
Pvt. B. W. Roland
Pfc. B. C. Sanbeck
Pvt. M. W. Santiago
Pvt. L. J. Serrone
Pvt. G. Malek-Madani
Pvt. C. M. Shain
Pvt. C. L. Smith
Pfc. M. A. Solisruiz
Pfc. C. D. Standley
*Pfc. A. J. Stone
Pvt. K. L. Brownfield
Pvt. N. M. Cales
Pvt. D. A. Cardenas

PLATOON 2014
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. C. C. Gonya
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. R. L. Bell
Staff Sgt. D. C. Evinger
Sgt. J. B. Roush

*Pfc. M. G. Alcalá
*Pfc. C. Amaro
Pfc. P. J. Andrade
Pvt. R. J. Anguiano
Pvt. N. Aragon
Pvt. G. Malek-Madani
Pvt. M. C. Arberry
*Pfc. S. F. Armenta
Pfc. J. M. Baltazar
Pfc. M. C. Blaylock
Pvt. D. W. Brown
Pvt. P. E. Moore
Pfc. E. W. Neal
Pvt. J. D. Page

Pvt. M. D. Cunningham
Pfc. J. Descamps
Pvt. S. A. Dunklin
Pvt. M. D. Dunnigan
Pvt. G. A. Fleming
Pvt. I. H. Friend
Pfc. R. P. Gamboa
Pvt. D. E. Garcia
Pfc. M. G. Garciadubon
Pvt. C. Gastelum
Pvt. A. M. Gribben
Pvt. S. M. Guerrero
Pfc. J. G. Guzman
Pvt. J. A. Hayter
Pvt. W. C. Heffelfinger
Pvt. H. J. Henry
Pvt. R. N. Rosales
Pfc. G. S. Hernandez
Pvt. J. J. Hilliker
Pfc. J. L. Horton
Pvt. J. D. Hsu
Pfc. G. J. Hurtado
*Pfc. J. A. Johnwell
Pfc. A. W. Karis
Pvt. J. M. Leibach
Pvt. N. J. Lohnes

Pvt. M. A. Lunn
Pvt. S. D. Maxton
Pvt. J. A. Molzan
Pvt. M. L. Ngo
Pvt. V. L. Ngo
Pvt. J. C. Oh
*Pfc. H. M. Ojeda
Pvt. G. I. Otero
Pvt. J. M. Parsley
Pvt. J. M. Pearson
Pfc. S. E. Pena
Pvt. M. E. Penny
Pfc. S. A. Ralls
Pvt. M. A. Ramos
Pvt. S. T. Rendon
Pvt. E. M. Reyes
Pvt. R. N. Rosales
Pvt. M. L. Sablan
Pvt. A. Saez
Pvt. G. E. Salvatierra
Pvt. M. Sanchez
Pvt. F. D. Sandoval
Pfc. E. K. Schmutzer
Pvt. P. R. Schultz
Pvt. T. E. Scroggins
Pfc. S. J. Shua

Pvt. J. L. Sims
Pvt. K. M. Soderdahl
Pvt. G. Tinocotena
Pfc. J. D. Tobey
Pvt. X. P. Valenzuela
Pvt. A. Velarde
Pvt. B. O. West
Pvt. M. M. Williams
Pfc. B. R. Williams
Pvt. T. W. Witt
Pvt. K. A. Wittig

PLATOON 2016
Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. O. X. Gomez-Coello
Drill Instructors
Sgt. R. W. Cardon
Sgt. M. N. Torres

PLATOON 2015
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. C. Johnson
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. W. D. Brown
Sgt. D. C. McCarthy

Pvt. T. R. Abarca
Pvt. M. J. Acosta
Pfc. C. S. Andrews
Pvt. M. D. Apriesnig
Pvt. G. L. Banda
Pvt. R. P. Beamus
Pvt. G. P. Berg
Pvt. J. M. Bissell
Pvt. J. D. Polzin
Pvt. J. R. Caminker
Pfc. J. J. Chorn
Pvt. J. D. Cuevas
Pvt. J. D. Delker
*Pfc. J. E. Diazramirez
Pfc. T. A. Elliot
Pvt. A. J. Femyer
Pvt. B. S. Fritts
Pvt. M. C. Ginitian
Pvt. L. S. Gray
Pvt. C. E. Hackmann
Pvt. C. L. Hernandez
*Pfc. J. A. Hernandez
*Pfc. M. D. Hitt
Pfc. S. J. Holt
Pvt. M. D. Ihde
Pfc. J. P. Johnson
Pfc. K. R. Jordan
Pfc. B. A. Kammerer
Pfc. B. D. Kaufmann
Pvt. E. T. Kerr
Pvt. A. J. Lopez
Pvt. R. S. Marstaeller
Pvt. C. Martinez
Pvt. P. G. Miller
Pvt. B. M. Miron
Pvt. R. T. Mobley
Pfc. O. T. Monroe
Pvt. B. J. Moon
Pvt. J. A. Myers
Pvt. D. D. Steffen
Pfc. A. M. Neiwert
Pfc. M. Z. Pan
Pfc. J. J. Prewitt
Pfc. P. P. Prince
Pvt. M. J. Proctor
Pfc. C. M. Rhodes
Pvt. C. H. Ridgeway
Pvt. J. H. Rios
Pvt. D. C. Ritchie
Pvt. O. A. Rodriguez
Pfc. C. P. Rupel
Pvt. S. H. Sanning
Pfc. J. L. Schatzinger
Pvt. D. R. Scimia
Pvt. E. J. Selby
Pvt. B. W. Sharp
Pvt. S. M. Smith
Pvt. Z. A. Snyder
Pvt. F. J. Solis
Pvt. R. W. Tate
Pvt. S. T. Thane
Pvt. D. Thurmond
Pvt. N. J. Tock
Pvt. M. J. Tucker
Pfc. M. A. Turner
Pfc. C. J. Walters
Pvt. J. A. Waters
Pvt. M. F. Weaver
Pvt. W. R. Whitaker
Pvt. S. A. Wilke
Pvt. T. M. Wilkins
Pvt. T. T. Wolff
Pfc. M. A. Yancy
Pvt. J. B. Young

Pfc. D. L. Bohlmann
Pvt. W. R. Crim IV
Pvt. A. C. Jacobs
Pvt. K. C. Jacobson
Pfc. D. L. Kester
*Pfc. S. H. Kim
Pvt. T. J. Koob
Pfc. E. D. Leader
Pvt. J. L. Luhrs
Pvt. D. E. Manning
Pvt. B. D. McIntosh
Pfc. G. McLeod
Pfc. C. K. Moore
Pvt. G. A. Morales
*Pfc. V. Perez
Pfc. P. C. Perez
Pvt. P. T. Peterson
Pvt. J. D. Polzin
Pvt. J. R. Porter
Pvt. J. G. Ramirez
Pvt. E. M. Read
*Pfc. S. L. Reifschneider
Pfc. C. E. Restrepo
Pvt. W. A. Rexhepi
Pfc. J. M. Reyes
Pvt. M. S. Reynolds
Pvt. D. W. Rice
Pvt. K. R. Robinson
Pfc. S. C. L. Rodriguez
Pvt. L. J. Rodriguez
Pvt. J. L. Roldan
Pfc. B. D. Rosen
Pfc. B. J. Sanders
Pvt. R. M. Schergen Jr.
Pvt. T. M. Schlotterbeck
Pvt. T. J. Schulz
Pvt. B. Seang
Pvt. D. J. Servold
Pvt. B. E. Sexton
Pvt. R. D. Shear
Pvt. P. G. Sifnotis
Pfc. J. S. Sim
Pfc. J. J. Sloan
Pvt. T. D. Smith
Pvt. T. L. Smith
Pvt. D. D. Steffen
Pvt. M. D. Stickney
Pvt. J. A. Storms
Pvt. D. J. Sulk
Pvt. N. J. Sutton
Pfc. J. P. Swatzell
Pvt. E. L. Tappan
Pvt. J. J. Taylor
Pvt. G. D. Teutsch
Pvt. J. M. Thayer
Pvt. E. H. Thayne
Pvt. N. E. Tiangson
Pvt. C. A. Toon
*Pfc. J. D. Toy
Pvt. P. D. Trevino
Pfc. M. A. Trevino
Pvt. D. W. Wade
Pfc. M. F. Warfield
Pfc. B. T. Webdell
Pvt. P. M. Wehye
Pfc. W. W. Wharton
Pvt. M. I. Wheeler
Pvt. J. D. Williams
Pvt. D. L. Williamson
Pvt. M. R. Willis
Pvt. C. M. Wilt
*Pfc. J. D. Woods
Pvt. C. J. Worley
Pvt. N. A. Young

suming command of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines until 1977.

Gonzales retired in 1983 following his assignment to chief of plans, Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force, Central Command.

Gonzales' decorations include; two Bronze Stars with Combat V, the Defense Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

He is married to the former Beverly Piper of San Diego and has two children and four grandchildren. They currently reside in Lutz, Fla.



(From left to right) Pvts. Donald E. Manning, Patrick T. Peterson and Jesse L. Luhrs, Platoon 2016, Company H, drink water from their canteens after completing a three-mile run, part of their physical fitness test Oct. 15. Sgt. Len Langston/Chevron

COMPANY CURIOSITIES Here's how men from Hotel Company answered Chevron's random questions about their interests and boot camp experiences:

Q: Why did you join the Marine Corps?



Pvt. Eric J. Secby
Portland, Ore.

A: To make my life a good one.

Q: What will you do when you get home?



Pvt. Ryan M. Blake
Manistique, Mich.

A: Visit my old high school and give a speech about the Corps' values.

Q: What was the scariest moment of recruit training?



Pvt. Chris Miller
Longview, Wash.

A: Flying down to San Diego and seeing the MCRD sign from the airport.

Q: What's the best MRE?



Pfc. Benjamin D. Kaufmann
Sioux Falls, S.D.

A: The pasta with vegetables because it tastes good cold.

Q: What MOS are you going to be?



Pvt. Adam Lopez
Warrenton, Mo.

A: Construction because I enjoy working with my hands.

*Meritorious promotion

Pfc. Chad T. Lane, Platoon 2010, Company H, strains to reach the finish line in the three-mile run part of the physical fitness test. Sgt. Len Langston/Chevron



Depot's 1st Sgt. Dathan Edwards rockets a pass past Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's 1st Lt. Marcus Curtis for an assist against in a preseason scrimmage at Miramar's new gym. *Lance Cpl. Jess Levens/Chevron photos*

Varsity ballers blitz Miramar in preseason showdown

BY LANCE CPL. JESS LEVENS
Chevron staff

It's basketball season again on the depot, and the men's varsity team squared off against the boys from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., for a preseason exhibition game Tuesday night.

Decked out in new green uniforms, the depot's hoopsters stormed Miramar's new gym ready to play. The coaches from the two teams acted as referees and the game was divided into two halves.

"This was really to see how we look against opponents," said the depot's coach Gunnery Sgt. Ernest Seward.

The score stayed tight throughout the game, but Miramar had the slight edge. Depot forward Lance Cpl. Ewell Thompson left the game with 8:43 to play in the first half. He injured his left knee when he tried to block a lay-up. He laid on the ground screaming

and writhing in pain for a few minutes. Navy Seaman Billy Sandoval, a depot player and naval hospitalman checked Thompson's leg and helped him courtside. The injury doesn't appear to be serious, but Thompson sat out the rest of the game.

Strong points for the depot are outside shooting from the veteran, Staff Sgt. Jesse Bowman,

monster rebounding from Seaman Traziel Jones and constant trash talking from Ashley Thomas.

"We have the overall talent to be a great team," said Seward. "We have to work on our timing and get used to play-

ing together. With the different duties each player has as a Marine or sailor, it's hard to get everyone together for practices. This Miramar (team) is good. They listen to each other and communicate well. They all have the same goal. But we'll be ready for 'em in the future."



VARSITY BASKETBALL



Miramar's Cpl. Robert Avery looks for a pass outlet against Depot forward Ashley Thomas's tight defense in the first half of the preseason scrimmage.



Depot players help Lance Cpl. Ewell Thompson off the court. Thompson injured his left knee in the first half after he tried to block a lay-up.